

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01 /134 W

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R 221415Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3884

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USUN NEW YORK 830

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0350

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, WA

SUBJECT: SWAPO TRIAL

REF: PRETORIA 2685

1. AFTER ONE-MONTH POSTPONEMENT, ON JULY 23 SWA SUPREME COURT RESUMED TRIAL OF SWAPO YOUTH LEAGUE OFFICE-BEARERS EZRIEL TAAPOPI AND JOSEPH KASHEA. EMBASSY INFORMED BY WINDHOEK SOURCES THAT DEFENSE ATTORNEYS BELIEVE TRIAL SHOULD BE ENDED IN TWO OR THREE DAYS. HOWEVER, ATTORNEYS EXPECT JUDGE PRESIDENT BADENHORST WILL RESERVE HIS DECISION UNTIL LATER DATE.

2. EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER TIERNEY IS IN WINDHOEK TO OBSERVE TRIAL. WE UNDERSTAND BRITISH AND SWEDISH EMBASSIES ALSO HAVE SENT OBSERVERS, AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT BRITISH LAWYER, CEDRIC THORNBERRY, WILL OBSERVE AGAIN ON BEHALF OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AND LAWYERS' COMMITTEE.

3. ACCORDING TO TWO RELIABLE SOURCES IN WINDHOEK, NEWS-
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PAPER REPORT THAT SIX SWAPO DETAINEES WERE FREED WHEN

THOMAS KOMATI WAS RELEASED ON BAIL IS INCORRECT. THUS,
DESPITE RELEASE OF KOMATI AND SWAPO NATIONAL CHAIRMAN
DAVID MERORO (PRETORIA 3147 AND CAPE TOWN 0342), ABOUT
NINE SWAPO AND SWAPO YOUTH LEAGUE MEMBERS, IN ADDITION TO
TAAPOPI AND KASHEA, REMAIN IN DETENTION.
HURD

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Message Attributes

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